

Gantry Cranes

The key risks when using the gantry crane include: The crane can collapse through overloading or if it is poorly maintained. It can be damaged through mis-use, and if its use is not controlled, the load can strike a person, or damage surrounding structure/equipment. Make sure that you carry out **pre-use checks**, including obvious signs of damage. Check that the controls work properly and that limit switches stop the crane's movement. Check that the crane travels smoothly. Never use damaged equipment. All **lifting accessories** must be stored in a dry place, preferably hanging on a rack where they will not get tangled up, wet or contaminated by dirt, grease, concrete etc.

Leaving the Crane -The control must always be turned **OFF** when not in use (using the emergency stop button). Always leave the Crane in a safe condition. Remove any slings from the hook and raise the hook to the upper position.

Safe operating procedures

- Protect lifting accessories from damage & make sure they will remain secure throughout the lift
- Never overload the equipment
- Before lifting, ensure that the hoist is directly above the load and that it is slung evenly and correctly.
- Ensure that the load is free before attempting to lift.
- Ensure the path of the load and crane is clear of personnel, objects, and obstructions.
- Do not hoist or crane into the travel stops at full speed.
- Do not travel with a load dragging along the floor.
- Do not lower the hook so far as to allow the ropes to go slack. If this happens the operator should determine that the rope is properly wound on the drum before moving a load
- Never stand below the load or allow any other personnel to do so
- Hoist into the load at slow speeds, avoid snatching or sudden hoist movement.



Q. What should you check before you use the crane?

Q. How and why should lifting accessories be stored?

Q. Why should loads always be lifted vertically?